CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An elliptically polarizing plate, comprising a polarizer,

a first optical anisotropic layer having positive refractive index anisotropy and an optical axis of the anisotropy that is tilted,

and a second optical anisotropic layer having negative refractive index anisotropy and an optical axis that is tilted.

2.   The elliptically polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein the layers are laminated in the order of the polarizer/ the first optical anisotropic layer/ the second optical anisotropic layer.

3.   The elliptically polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein a tilt direction of the optical axis of the first optical anisotropic layer and a tilt direction of the optical axis of the second optical anisotropic layer are configured orthogonally.

4.   The elliptically optical polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein the first optical anisotropic layer is formed of a rod-like nematic liquid crystal molecule.

5.   The elliptically optical polarizing plate according to claim 1, wherein the second optical anisotropic layer is formed of a discotic liquid crystal molecule.

6.   A liquid crystal display comprising a liquid crystal cell of twisted nematic mode, and at least a first optical compensation layer provided on at least one side of the liquid

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crystal cell, the first optical compensation layer containing an elliptically polarizing plate, wherein the elliptically polarizing plate contains a polarizer, a first optical anisotropic layer having positive refractive index anisotropy and an optical axis of the anisotropy that is tilted, and a second optical anisotropic layer having negative refractive index anisotropy and an optical axis that is tilted.

7. The liquid crystal display according to claim 6, additionally comprising a second optical compensation layer provided on an opposite side of the liquid crystal cell from the elliptically polarizing plate.

8. The liquid crystal display according to claim 7, wherein the second optical compensation layer comprises at least one layer of having a relation of refractive indexes of $nx>ny=nz$, where the refractive indexes in two directions within the plane is set to nx and ny, the refractive index in the thickness direction is set to nz.

9. The liquid crystal display according to claim 7, wherein the other optical compensation layer comprises at least one layer of having a relation of refractive indexes of $nx=ny>nz$, where the refractive indexes in two directions within the plane is set to nx and ny, the refractive index in the thickness direction is set to nz.

10. The liquid crystal display according to claim 7, wherein the other optical compensation layer comprises at least

one layer of having a relation of refractive indexes of nx<ny=nz, where the refractive indexes in two directions within the plane is set to nx and ny, the refractive index in the thickness direction is set to nz.

11. The liquid crystal display according to claim 7, wherein the other optical compensation layer comprises at least one layer of having a relation of refractive indexes of nx>ny>nz, where the refractive indexes in two directions within the plane is set to nx and ny, the refractive index in the thickness direction is set to nz.